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FORTY AMERICANS HELD IN MEXICO

UNTIL A RANSOM OF 15,000 PESOS IS PAID—TIME EXPIRES TODAY—NO MEXICAN FEDERAL TROOPS IN THE VICINITY

Washington, June 27.—The lives of 40 American employes of the Cortez Oil company near Tampico, and destructible property valued at a quarter of a million dollars are being held by the rebel general until ransom of 15,000 pesos is paid, according to a message today from the American consul at Tampico to the state department.

The dispatch was dated yesterday and said that the "rebel General Corozabe" had seized the company's property and was holding it with 240 well armed men. Prompt instructions were sent by the state department to the embassy in Mexico City and to the consul at Tampico to urge the Mexican authorities to take immediate action for the protection of American lives and property.

The consul reported that Corozabe had demanded payment of the 15,000 pesos within 48 hours from yesterday morning when his forces seized the property. The message also said that there were no Mexican federal troops in the vicinity.

The consul's message contained few details. As the message was dated yesterday the time for payment of the 15,000 pesos fixed by the rebel leader probably was due to expire sometime today.

The state department sent the following message to the embassy at Mexico City, similar instructions going to the consul at Tampico.

"Urge the appropriate authorities to adopt vigorous measures to extend adequate protection to the lives and property of American citizens reported held by the rebel General Corozabe and to punish the perpetrators of this outrage.

Meanwhile the department was still awaiting advices from Mexico as to action taken by the Mexican government to obtain the release of A. Bruce Bielaski, captured by bandits and held for ransom not far from Mexico City near Cuernavaca. The embassy has communicated no additional details of Mr. Bielaski's capture since it received the departments instruction to press the Mexican authorities for prompt action in the case.

Washington, June 28.—Relations between the United States and Mexico are not likely to be affected in any way by the bandit outbreak and the recent kidnapping of A. Bruce Bielaski in the republic to the south it was said today at the White House.

MR. THOMAS LEAVES.

Mr. A. R. Thomas who has been connected with the Abbeville Cotton Mill for the last year as Executive Secretary of the Board of Operatives, left today for Baltimore. Mr. Thomas was accompanied by his sister, Miss Agnes Thomas, who has been visiting here for the past ten days. They made the trip through the country by automobile, going by Blue Ridge, N. C.

Mr. Thomas made many friends during his stay here who will regret to hear that he does not expect to return to Abbeville but will take up his work at Garnersville, N. Y.

NOTE ADDITIONAL TAX

The two mills additional school tax was voted Tuesday at the election held in the city hall by a vote of 47 for and 18 against. The vote cast was small because of the general belief that voters had to hold receipts for taxes paid before the first of January 1922.

ARMY BILL PASSES WITH AMENDMENT

MUSCLE SHOALS PROVISION GOES TO PRESIDENT—THE MONEY APPROPRIATED CAN NOT BE SPENT BEFORE NEXT OCTOBER.

Washington, June 27.—President Harding's signature was all that was required tonight for authorizing the appropriation of \$7,500,000 for new work on the Wilson dam at Muscle Shoals. The army bill containing authority of congress to spend the money on that project, effective October 1, next, was passed today by the senate without a change in the language already approved by the house and by conferees of the two legislative bodies.

During final senate consideration however, the measure at certain stages was threatened with being sent back to the house for further conference, Senator Norris of Nebraska, chairman of the agriculture committee, moving that the senate disagree with the house provision delaying expenditure of the money until October. He was finally overruled by a vote of 28 to 32.

The Nebraska senator led the attack on the house amendment and was joined by Senator Wadsworth of New York, chairman of the military committee in charge of the bill, and by Senator Underwood of Alabama, Democratic leader, in declaring the house action "unfortunate." The latter two senators, however, differed with Senator Norris on his motion to disagree, declaring that, if it prevailed, the bill would be returned to the house and the appropriation probably would be jeopardized in this procedure.

Others, including Senator Glass (Democrat) of Virginia, Heflin (Democrat) of Alabama and Smith (Democrat) of South Carolina, supported Senator Underwood in requesting concurrence in the house amendment in order to make the appropriation certain. Senator Underwood recalled past occurrences where differences between the senate and house had resulted disastrously to Muscle Shoals appropriations and reminded his colleagues that the army bill has to be on the statute books by July 1, and that they had no time to lose in adjusting differences in language, however, unfortunate they might appear to the senate.

DIES AFTER BEING NEARLY DROWNED IN POND

J. P. Pressly of Due West Rescued From Greenwood Pond Succumbs to Hemorrhage.

Greenwood, June 27.—J. P. Pressly of Due West, member of the Seaboard Air Line bridge construction force, died here Monday night after being almost drowned in a bathing pond in four feet of water Sunday afternoon. After being under water seven minutes Mr. Pressly was brought to the surface and respiration restored. He was taken to a hospital and treated but died from hemorrhage just before midnight.

With bathers all around him, in only about four feet of water, Pressly suddenly sank out of sight. Efforts of those around him to bring him to the surface proved fruitless and he was rescued when two men on the bank of the pond dived in after him. The dead man was 38 years of age. He is survived by his wife, one brother, R. C. Pressly, Due West; three sisters, Miss Matilda Pressly, Due West; Mrs. H. T. Sharp, Due West, and Mrs. T. B. Woolrich, Americus, Ga. The funeral services were held from Bethlehem church near Due West Monday afternoon.

L. B. Friday of Newberry spent Tuesday in Abbeville.

NO HEADWAY MADE IN STRIKE AFFAIR

LEWIS CONFERS WITH PRESIDENT HARDING—LABOR HEAD REFUSES TO DISCUSS SETTLEMENT IN INDIVIDUAL DISTRICTS.

Washington, June 27.—Administration efforts to bring about a settlement of the bituminous coal strike met a preliminary check today.

After conferences with President Harding and Secretary of Labor Davis, John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, announced that the union policy still was unaltered and unyielding in its insistence that a new wage scale must be set up for the strike-ridden mining districts by national or semi-national conferences with operators.

The meeting between Mr. Harding, Secretary of Labor Davis and Mr. Lewis which took place around the White House luncheon table, was the last of a series of conferences into which Secretary of Labor Davis took Mr. Lewis after his arrival from Cincinnati Sunday.

Officially, no statement was forthcoming, though Secretary Hoover was called to the White House for a word with the President about the situation immediately after Mr. Lewis left. Apparently no spokesmen for the mine operators, whose refusal before last April to meet in the semi-national wage scale negotiations of the central competitive field was the controversial point in the strike, were in the capitol for today's discussions.

Mr. Lewis was first invited to Washington last Tuesday, and upon his arrival Sunday was taken to Secretary Davis' private apartments for a protracted discussion, running several hours past midnight, to be renewed later today at the labor department.

"We talked over the general problems of the bituminous industry and the strike," Mr. Lewis declared on leaving the White House, its "over-development and intermittency and projects for its stabilization. No plans affecting the strike were decided upon. The strike situation is unchanged."

ALONG THE RIGHT LINE

Plans Being Formulated for New Enterprises for Abbeville.

Elsewhere in this issue is an advertisement of Mr. Lewis Perrin, who is representing other parties, among them Mr. L. K. Belcher, who recently visited in Abbeville, which needs consideration. On his recent visit here Mr. Belcher became interested in the opportunities afforded men of enterprise in this section, and in view of the depredations of the boll weevil, and the work which must be done to overcome losses which it has brought, he has turned his attention to plans for the betterment of the people of this section.

Mr. Belcher has in mind the formation of a corporation which will cure and store potatoes, dry and store onions, the establishment of a creamery and the operation of a cold storage plant for storing eggs, etc.

Like every other business man Mr. Belcher knows that these enterprises will only succeed when there is the active cooperation of the people of the immediate section. Looking to this Mr. Belcher is running an advertisement in this paper asking for an expression from the farmers of Abbeville County on their interest in the matter. Are they willing to join him in establishing these enterprises?

If you are interested write or see Mr. Lewis Perrin, at the National Bank of Abbeville. If you want information forward your request to him and he will secure all the necessary data.

Manning Black of Anderson spent last night in Abbeville visiting friends.

ENDEAVOR TO END COAL STRIKE

DEADLOCK WILL NOT BE ABATED BY EITHER PARTY—JUST WHAT FORM THE MOVE WILL TAKE NO OFFICIAL IS PREPARED TO STATE.

Washington, June 27.—Indications were given at the White House today that the government soon would be able to make an announcement in the coal strike situation and that the step contemplated was a move to bring the leaders of the union miners and representative operators together for a discussion of wage differences.

Washington, June 27.—Business organizations affiliated with the Chamber of Commerce of the United States were called upon today by Julius H. Barnes, president of the chamber, to lend their cooperation in the effort to prevent a runaway coal market by setting up machinery for coordinating the distribution of coal among their local industrial and individual consumers. Each of the 1,400 organizations—Chambers of commerce and trade associations—was urged to appoint a fuel committee and make an immediate survey of the local coal situation.

Proposing the plan as supplemental to the suggestion of Secretary Hoover that the public utilities, railroads and metallurgical industries, as the largest coal consuming groups, appoint buyers committees to coordinate their purchases, Mr. Barnes said:

"In view of a possibility of the strike continuing until depletion of stocks becomes serious, I believe that in the general public interest, this situation should be anticipated as much as possible. In the absence of other machinery, I suggest that you appoint a fuel committee to survey the conditions relative to stocks on hand and the needs in your community or industry and that this information be compiled so that if the situation does become serious it can be used in any plan for distribution of available coal."

BASEBALL FOR FOURTH

Carolina League Games Transferred From Abbeville to Anderson.

The baseball games which were to have been played in Abbeville by the teams of the Carolina League, July 4th have been transferred to Anderson. The transfer of the games was made for several reasons. In the first place there is to be a game at the Abbeville Cotton Mills on that day, and three games in Abbeville in one day would have been more than a town of this size would make profitable.

On the other hand there is to be much excitement in Anderson on that day and the people there are looking for a considerable gathering of people from other towns. It is thought that the attendance will be a great deal better in Anderson than in Abbeville. The entire proceeds of the first game will go to the Abbeville players, and one half of the proceeds of the second game. In addition Anderson pays \$25.00 to cover expenses of the team.

It is hoped that a large number of people who are interested in the local team will attend the games, especially the morning game when the proceeds go to the home team. Both teams are being strengthened and two good games are promised.

GEDDINGS ROCHE OFF

Geddings Roche left today for Washington where he will stop over to see his sister, Miss Annie Roche, and go on from Washington to West Point in time to report on the first of July.

2 TENTATIVE DATES SET FOR RAIL STRIKE

RAILROAD UNION OFFICIALS STILL CONSIDER STRIKE. IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE ON THURSDAY AS TO PLANS.

Chicago, June 27.—Railroad Union officials continued today on the threatened railroad strike.

With informal statements by union leaders indicating that the referendum of shopmen, maintenance of way employees and clerks throughout the United States discloses a strong sentiment in favor of a strike as a protest against wage reductions J. C. Smock, assistant to the president of the maintenance of way men predicted the walkout would be called July 15. Others said conferences with railroad officials probably would delay the call until August 1.

Word came out of the secret conferences that a meeting of union executives within the next few days might include the "big four" brotherhoods of trainmen, who are unaffected by the wage cut decisions of the railroad labor board.

B. M. Jewell, head of the railway employees department of the American Federation of Labor, said an "important announcement" will be made Thursday as a result of the meetings on strike plans and policies.

Any proposals from the railroads to prevent the threatened strike will be heard, union officials said, but they advanced little encouragement of developments in that direction.

The United States railroad labor board resumed its hearings today on contract cases.

WHITE MAN KILLS

McCORMICK NEGRO

Negro Attacked Two White Men, According To Witnesses Mr. Wood Hurt

McCormick, June 27.—Richard Sims, negro, was shot and killed this morning near Parkville by W. T. Wood, a white man. Mr. Wood, according to the testimony offered at the coroner's inquest this morning, shot in self-defense, drawing his pistol only after he had been attacked by the negro. Mr. Wood's left arm was broken by a blow from a shotgun, wielded, witnesses say, by the negro Sims.

Mr. Wood came to McCormick after having his arm dressed and this morning surrendered to Sheriff Leroy. The coroner's jury, investigating the killing, brought in a verdict that the negro came to his death by a gunshot wound at the hands of W. T. Wood. The dead negro was considered a desperate character.

The killing grew out of an attempt on the part of Mr. Wood and W. T. Self and W. P. Langford, two other white men to settle a dispute between the negro Sims and John Lee, another negro, living about one and a half miles from Parkville. The wives of the two negroes quarreled yesterday and Sims, according to the negro Lee, threatened yesterday to kill him and this morning, Lee said, carried a gun to the field with the avowed intention of carrying out the threat.

COTTON MARKET

Cotton brought 21 1-2 cents on the local market today. Futures closed

July	21.63
October	21.61
December	21.34
January	21.19
Futures closed Tuesday	
July	21.26
October	21.25
December	21.05
January	20.86

ONLY NATIVES SLAIN IN CHINA

NO FOREIGNERS KILLED, SAYS ADMIRAL—SEVERE WARFARE ABOUT TO DEVELOP WITH DEFEAT FOR CHEN INDICATED

Shanghai June 27.—Rear Admiral W. H. G. Bullard, commanding the United States naval patrol on the Yangtze river, who arrived tonight on his flagship, U. S. S. Isabel, confirmed reports of the recent uprising in Kiangsi province and the killing of many natives, but declared that no foreigners had been killed or captured.

Sun's forces, now converging on Canton, are declared to outnumber the troops under Chen Chung-Ming, who deposed Sun. Chinese observers predict severe warfare between the two factions with the odds in favor of the restoration of Sun Yat Sen and the defeat of Chen.

Admiral Bullard said that the disturbances resulting from the mutiny of the troops in Kiangsi perhaps had not been wholly quelled south of Nanchang, in which region cities have been looted and many persons slaughtered, but that elsewhere the Chinese authorities were restoring order. He believed that all danger of damage to the property of foreigners had passed before he left Kiangsi in northern Kiangsi.

The worst phase of the mutiny, said the admiral, continued through out two days, during which looting and killing became general. He was unable to estimate the number of Chinese slain nor the extent of the damage, but he was certain that the latter would be found to be extensive.

When Admiral Bullard departed from Kiangsi he left the American gunboat Monocacy on duty there and Saturday her commander reported that the city of Nanchang, capital of the Kiangsi province, was no longer in danger.

Three generals are in command of 30,000 of Sun's Kiangsi army of 50,000, said to be driving southward. They are Dsu Tsung-Chi, Li Lieh-Chun and Huang Ta-Wei.

Reports received from Canton assert that General Huang, with 20,000 troops, is holding a line in the southern Kiangsi province below Kanchow, while Generals Li and Dsu are commanding the drive against Chen Chung-Ming. Sun's northern forces are not expected to reach the neighborhood of Canton inside of two weeks.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES ELECTED

At the election held in the court house yesterday afternoon for School Trustees for the Town of Abbeville, H. R. McAllister was elected to succeed himself, while Dr. G. A. Neuffer and W. P. Greene were elected to succeed Dr. C. H. McMurray and J. D. Kerr whose terms had expired.

BONUS FOR STAR PLAYERS

After the home-run of Clark on Monday the base ball fans made up a purse of \$11.80 and presented it to him. When Reames came across with a home-run Tuesday, making fast time on a slow track, there was more enthusiasm and he received \$20.30.

FIRST COTTON BLOOM.

P. A. Cheatham brought the Press and Banner the first cotton bloom of the season from his farm in the Warrenton section. He has about thirty acres on this farm worked by Lewis Brown, who runs three or four plows. Mr. Cheatham says he has never found a boll weevil on this cotton.